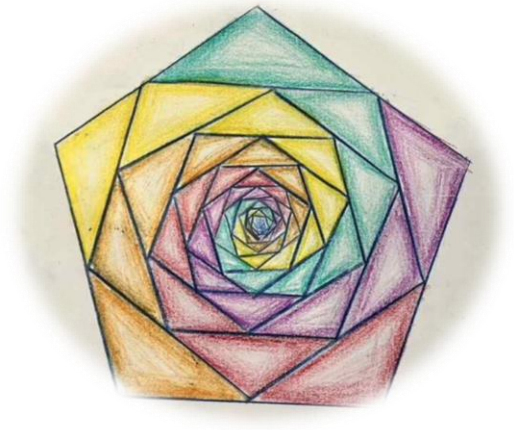




Whakataka te hau ki te uru,
 Whakataka te hau ki te tonga
 Kia makinakina ki uta,
 Kia mataratara ki tai.
 E hi ake ana te ata kura
 he tio, he huka, he hauhunga.
 Haumi e! Hui e! Taiki e

The wind swings to the west, settles
 Then turns to the south, settles down.
 Making it prickly cold inland
 Making it piercingly cold at sea.
 The glowing morning will rise
 On ice, on snow, on frost.
 Join! Gather! Intertwine!



Class kea pupil's work

NEWSLETTER

2025 TERM 1

School

Rāmere/Friday 21 st Mar	Teachers only day – school closed, kindy open
Rāapa/Wednesday 5 th Mar	5:30 – 7pm Parent experience Evening – Morning circle older classes
Rāhina/Monday 24 th Mar	Otago Anniversary – public holiday
Rāmere/Friday 11 st Apr	Saint Michael's play

Kindergarten

Rātū/Tuesday 18 th Mar	12pm Kindergarten Open Afternoon
Rāhina/Monday 24 th Mar	Otago Anniversary – public holiday

Governance

Rātū/Tuesday 11 th Mar	5:30pm Board meeting
Rātū/Tuesday 25 th Mar	5:30pm Proprietors meeting

Other

Rātapu/Sunday 4th May (Term 2) 11am to 2pm **FAIR DAY**

Playgroup Rāhina/Mondays and Rōapa/Wednesdays 9:30 to 11:30 am

Kia ora e te whānau,

It is hard to believe that half the term is behind us even though we can see in the colder mornings that we are moving away from summer and into the cooler season. There is so much life in the kindergarten and the school, so much laughter from children and staff and an enjoyment of learning through play, story or living the curriculum, that is contagious and energising. From the music that has been coming from class Kākāpō as they are exploring instruments with all their senses, to acrostic poetry in class Kiokio, to learning about waka travels across the oceans and making their own waka from natural materials in class Kererū as well as class Kea diving into the slightly more gruesome and very exciting world of the Aztecs, the exploration of themes and topics, of history and the present time, shows the highest level of responsiveness to the individual classes and the developmental ages of the children. We can all see the learning and the enjoyment that comes with it and it makes this school and kindergarten a very special place to be part of!

For our parent community the focus has shifted to the fair and we are asking you all to please respond to the request from your class reps and the school as quickly as you can so we can be as prepared as possible for our fair day.

Thank you all for what you bring to this place, we are grateful for the amazing community we have!

Kā mihi, Anna Noble, Tumuaki/Principal

Special Character Thoughts

Before moving forward with the 12 senses, I would like to take a step back and give a little overview of what the 12 senses are about. We all know that our senses influence our being every day and every night. Some of them we only become aware of when something isn't quite right (like the life sense), some of them work in our conscious being and others go deeper into the more spiritual realm of who we are. However, the more aware we become of our senses, the more conscious we become of influences and stimuli. For our children it is our responsibility to be conscious of outside stimuli and with increased understanding of the senses, this will become easier to do.

While there are different ways of looking and ordering the senses, here is just one that might help introduce all of them:

Four senses around perceiving your own body:

- Sense of touch
- Sense of life
- Sense of movement or muscle sense
- Sense of balance

Four senses around perceiving the environment:

- Sense of smell

- Sense of taste
- Sense of sight
- Sense of temperature

Four senses around perceiving the non-physical world:

- Sense of hearing
- Sense of speech
- Sense of thought
- Sense of ego

The higher our life quality, the more nuanced becomes our perception of our senses. The more we know about them, the more we can learn and train ourselves to be responsive and responsible to all the senses that influence us every day, which is why this learning or revisiting is so vital for us personally and for our work with the children.

Playground Improvement Group

We are looking for a group of handy parents that would like to be part of the playground improvement. We are often full of inspiration of big and small ideas of things that we could add to our playground and we know that there are very capable, engaged and creative parents out there that could make a big difference to the grounds. The most immediate call for help is from the kindergarten as some of the play equipment needs a bit of love and as we would like to keep our grounds beautiful, buying things is often the least desired option. Please refer to the kindergarten write up for more details. We would like this group to be an ongoing group that can work independently with the guidance of the management. Please get in touch if this is something you could see yourself contributing to, it only takes two people to get this started!

Transport help

It is possible that you may be eligible for some help with transport costs - if you have a 5+ year old here and live a certain distance away that is not on a bus route. This is a payment from the Ministry of Education. If you are eligible, you can apply here:

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/primary-school/your-child-at-school/school-transport-assistance/>

After School Care News

It has been a real joy to get the after-school care program up and running again this year. We've settled well into our daily rhythm, which is drawn from my experience working in the holiday kindy over the summer.

Each day, the group comes together to first prepare their afternoon snack. This has proven to be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with the children, establish cohesion within the group, and hear all about their respective days. Activities like making buns or apple crumble provide a sense of familiarity for the younger kids, reflecting some of

their usual kindy routines, while the school children seem to enjoy a touch of nostalgia for their time in kindy.

The children always look forward to their time outside, where we can usually be found either in the forest or playing games on the top field. Mancala has quickly become a favorite during quiet time for those who stay until the end of the session.

It has been great to start establishing strong relationships with all the children enrolled, and we look forward to welcoming any newcomers throughout the year.

Kā mihi nui, *Jessica*

SCHOOL – CLASS KEA

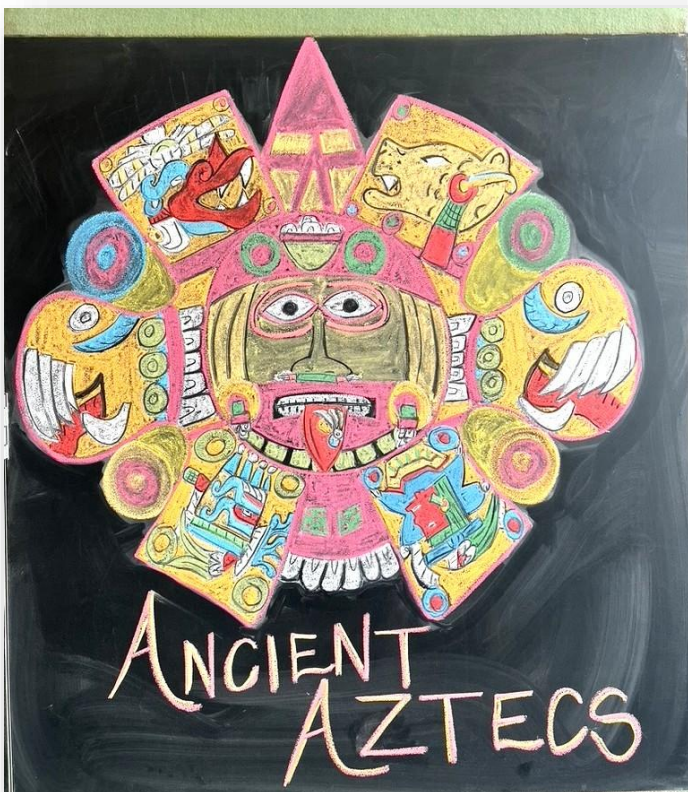
Kia ora e te whānau,

Class Kea has had a wonderful start to the school year, full of explorations of geometry and ancient civilisations. As a Class 5/6 blended classroom, we began the year with a hybrid of Freehand Geometry and the use of mathematical tools. We explored how to create shapes with just our pencils and how to create polygons using a protractor and a ruler. These lessons allowed for some



beautiful artwork to be produced.

We have now begun our exploration of the Ancient Aztecs, a truly brutal but fascinating society full of color and intense story-telling. The Class Kea students are very invested in what life was like in Ancient Mesoamerica and it has led to some rich classroom discussion. As their teacher, I see the progression of the classroom discussion to be one of the main indicators that the children are growing older as they become more



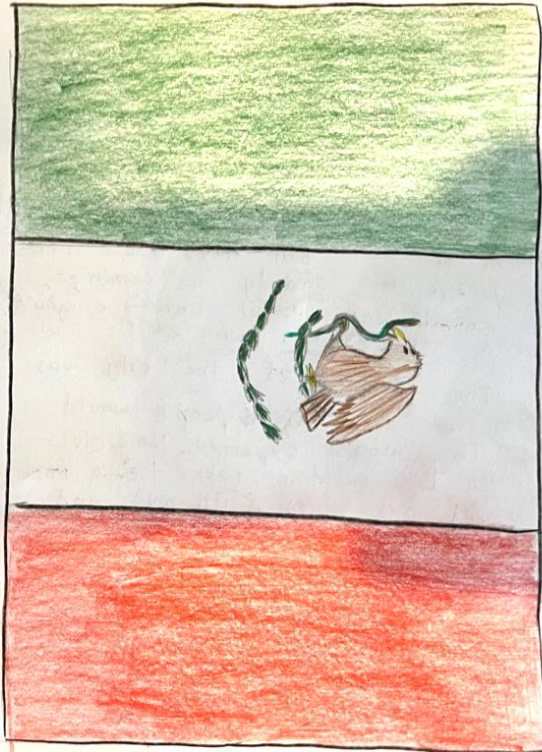
opinionated and have much more thought-provoking ideas and questions that they share with one another.

Who were the Aztecs?

The Aztecs were an ancient Mesoamerican people, ruling over the Aztec Empire in the 15th and 16th century.

They called themselves Culhua Mexica and Tenochca. They were hunters and gatherers. Their power grew because they teamed up, and they were successful because they allied with more powerful states.

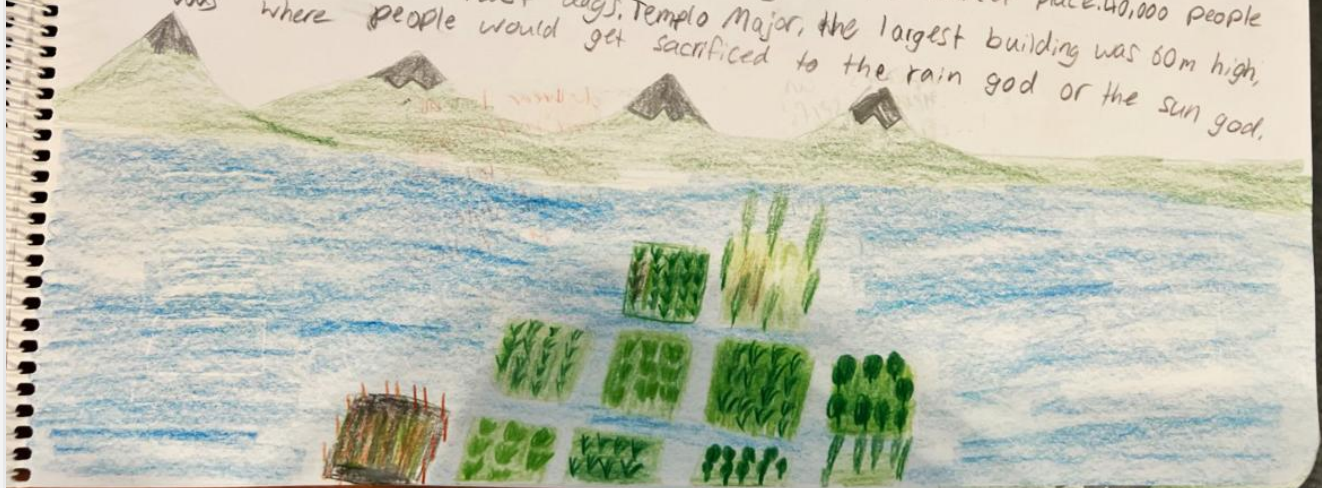
There once was a tribe who sacrificed people to the sun god. So no one liked them so they were always on the move. One day the sun god told them if they saw an eagle holding a snake on a cactus then they could settle there. And one day one of the priests saw that and they settled by a swamp and build on it.



Tenochtitlan

Tenochtitlan was the capital of the Aztec Empire. It was positioned on a very swampy island on Lake Texcoco. They chose to settle there because of the eagle, because the water kept people out and they could see them coming and because they did not have to fight for it. The Aztec people grew crops on islands by putting in stakes, tying reeds around them and put rocks and dirt in.

The Aztec people made canals and causeways to get around. There were 3 causeways with bridges built in which would be raised when enemies were coming. A staple of the city is the market place. 40,000 people would come on feast days. Templo Mayor, the largest building was 60m high, was where people would get sacrificed to the rain god or the sun god.



We also continue to work with pastels, looking at how to effectively blend to show shape and shade. We were recently inspired by our chrysalis' and hope to draw a monarch butterfly when it emerges!

Until next time,

be well,

Emily

for Class Kea



KINDERGARTEN

Kia ora whānau,

Our tamariki have been enjoying the warm summer days and becoming more independent as they flow with our rhythm each day. The children are encouraged and facilitated within their work to be inclusive, kind and fair to all the other children. They are encouraged to share their skills and abilities with others in tuakana/teina relationships. At Kindergarten the children are given opportunities to work alongside their friends and kaiako when preparing kai or working in our garden. Their skills are encouraged and valued and our open ended resources allow the tamariki to live into their imaginative forces and live in the moment.

We are also looking for any building people who would love a kindergarten project to enhance our outdoor area for the children. Our hopes are to have a wooden climbing/swinging



structure that can provide exciting new challenges to our tamariki and be useful for all their ages. If this is up your alley and you would love to be a part of this then please reach out one of the kindy teachers and we can put together a “playground improvement group” and get some ideas flowing! We have a picture here of our idea but something a little more simplified that will fit in our space.

Love, *the Kindy Kaiako*

PLAYGROUP

Dear Playgroup Community,

Jenny Wigley has been back facilitating our Wednesday sessions and I have been there on Mondays. We do still have a little space for more families to join us so if you know anyone with a little one who you think might enjoy our social, play based sessions do invite them please. Arohanui, Alida playgroup@dunedinsteiner.nz

CRAFTGROUP

If you enjoy a chat while doing some hand work come and join our group. This term we will be meeting every Tuesday from 9 to 11am in the playgroup room. Join us!

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Community notices in our newsletter will normally appear for one week only and may be edited to accommodate space. If you wish to place a notice please email your notice to office@dunedinsteiner.nz. We charge \$10 for an advert and need ads in by the Monday prior to the Wednesday publication date. You can pay by direct internet banking to 03-0903-0437318-00
Disclaimer: This space is open to advertisers and the school does not make any guarantees or endorsement on their behalf.

Give Your Teeth A Rest

Snack All Day, Get Tooth Decay!

3 x as 1 snack = 30 minutes of possible tooth decay

1 x as 3 separate snacks = 90 minutes of possible tooth decay

HOW OFTEN we eat is as important as WHAT we eat to keep our teeth healthy

The more times we eat each day = more chance for holes in our teeth

Exploring Sleep, Cognitive Engagement, and Child Functioning Study: We are currently recruiting children aged 6 to 10 years who often daydream, are inattentive, sleepy, and/or hyperactive, alongside children who do not display these behaviours to take part in our study at the University of Otago. You will be required to complete a brief log about your child’s sleep for one week and attend a one-off 3-4 hour visit at the University with your child. Parents/caregivers will receive \$40 and children will receive \$20 as a thank you for your participation. There is free parking and school holiday and weekend sessions available!

Interested? Email: selfregulationresearchcentre@gmail.com Phone: 021 279 0549

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

Community Oral
Health Service

Scan this code
for more great
tooth tips



Peace Talks: Support for Parents through Nonviolent Communication (NVC)



Jorinde Rapsey & Sally Prebble PhD

www.peacetalks.nz

Hello! My name is Jorinde (mother of two teens), fortunate to experience Waldorf education until adulthood. As a young parent, I enjoyed facilitating Steiner playgroups, and for the past eight years, I've delved deeply into Nonviolent Communication (NVC), a practice that nurtures self-awareness, compassion, and deepens relationships. Together with my friend and colleague, Sally Prebble, we founded *Peace Talks* in 2022 to share NVC with parents. We believe it's an incredibly powerful tool for deepening connections, managing conflict with empathy and honesty, and creating more meaning in life. If you're feeling challenged or overwhelmed by the daily struggles of parenting, we'd love to offer support. Or, if you're simply curious and want to discover communication tools to enliven and deepen your relationships, visit our website or get in touch to learn more about upcoming workshops or free introductory resources. We'd love to help you navigate parenting with compassion and connection! www.peacetalks.nz | 027 694 57 50

Dunedin Concerto Competition Preliminary Round concerts since our inception in 2021! Our 25 talented competitors are currently practicing with great dedication as they prepare for their performances from 7–9 March at the College of Education Auditorium, University of Otago. This year, we have decided to make the Preliminary Rounds as accessible as possible. Instead of selling tickets for the five sessions, we are asking for koha at the door – pay what you can. Our suggested donation per session is:

\$10 per adult, \$5 for concessions and students, Free for children Supporter price: \$20 (for those who wish to contribute more). For the full schedule of sessions, please visit our website: <https://www.dunedinconcerto.com/preliminary-round-concert-schedule>



We're looking for more people to provide short-term and respite care for tamariki and rangatahi in Dunedin, as part of our support of whānau in Dunedin. If possible, we'd really appreciate it if you could include the attached advert in your school newsletter to help us reach potential caregivers. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact me at 03 477 0801. Ngā mihi, Rose Scott, Caregiver Liaison Social Worker

Short Term Accommodation needed in May & June 2025: Kia ora Dunedin Steiner School community – I am a teacher at the Bush Kindergarten at Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School in West Auckland. I am looking for short term accommodation during May & June 2025. This could be a housesit, tiny house, campervan or small rental. I am open to any offers that you may have. I am coming south to support my family who are moving to Dunedin, and my husband will be able to be there some of the time, but not all of it. I love the outdoors and nature's beauty and very much looking forward to being in your neighbourhood. Please contact Tina at t.dean@titirangi.steiner.school.nz or 0274 895042. Thank you!

Friends of the Burns Reserve seeks volunteers: Every three weeks a team from the Friends of the Burns Reserve works on Gerry's Rock above the school, clearing barberry and other invasive weeds. If you are interested in joining us then contact daywalk@xtra.co.nz The group meets at 9am on the Signal Hill Road on the bend in the road just past the stone walled farm buildings and there is a 30 minute walk in to that part of the reserve. A level of fitness and agility is required. Have appropriate clothes, snack, drink, gloves and loppers, or secateurs or similar. Herbicide gel is used on barberry. The group is finished by 12.30. The next meet is 22 March and then the time changes to 9.30 on 12 April, 3 May, 24 May, 14 June. If you would like to join the Friends group to receive two monthly updates then email burnsreserve@gmail.com